

(e) *Cash monitoring payment method.* Under the cash monitoring payment method, the Secretary provides title IV, HEA program funds to an institution under the provisions described in paragraph (e)(1) or (e)(2) of this section. Under either paragraph (e)(1) or (e)(2) of this section, an institution must first make disbursements to students and parents for the amount of title IV, HEA program funds that those students and parents are eligible to receive, before the institution—

(1) Submits a request for funds under the provisions of the advance payment method described in paragraph (b) of this section, except that the institution's request may not exceed the amount of the actual disbursements the institution made to the students and parents included in that request; or

(2) Seeks reimbursement for those disbursements under the provisions of the reimbursement payment method described in paragraph (d) of this section, except that the Secretary may modify the documentation requirements and review procedures used to approve the reimbursement request.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070g, 1094)

[61 FR 60603, Nov. 29, 1996, as amended at 62 FR 62876, Nov. 25, 1997; 71 FR 38003, July 3, 2006; 73 FR 35493, June 23, 2008]

**§ 668.163 Maintaining and accounting for funds.**

(a)(1) *Bank or investment account.* An institution must maintain title IV, HEA program funds in a bank or investment account that is Federally insured or secured by collateral of value reasonably equivalent to the amount of those funds.

(2) For each bank or investment account that includes title IV, HEA program funds, an institution must clearly identify that title IV, HEA program funds are maintained in that account by—

(i) Including in the name of each account the phrase “Federal Funds”; or

(ii)(A) Notifying the bank or investment company of the accounts that contain title IV, HEA program funds and retaining a record of that notice; and

(B) Except for a public institution, filing with the appropriate State or municipal government entity a UCC-1

statement disclosing that the account contains Federal funds and maintaining a copy of that statement.

(b) *Separate bank account.* The Secretary may require an institution to maintain title IV, HEA program funds in a separate bank or investment account that contains no other funds if the Secretary determines that the institution failed to comply with—

(1) The requirements in this subpart;  
(2) The recordkeeping and reporting requirements in subpart B of this part; or

(3) Applicable program regulations.

(c) *Interest-bearing or investment account.* (1) An institution must maintain the Fund described in § 674.8(a) of the Federal Perkins Loan Program regulations in an interest-bearing bank account or investment account consisting predominately of low-risk, income-producing securities, such as obligations issued or guaranteed by the United States. Interest or income earned on Fund proceeds are retained by the institution as part of the Fund.

(2) Except as provided in paragraph (c)(3) of this section, an institution must maintain Direct Loan, Federal Pell Grant, ACG, National SMART Grant, TEACH Grant, FSEOG, and FWS program funds in an interest-bearing bank account or an investment account as described in paragraph (c)(1) of this section.

(3) An institution does not have to maintain Direct Loan, Federal Pell Grant, ACG, National SMART Grant, TEACH Grant, FSEOG, and FWS program funds in an interest-bearing bank account or an investment account for an award year if—

(i) The institution drew down less than a total of \$3 million of those funds in the prior award year and anticipates that it will not draw down more than that amount in the current award year;

(ii) The institution demonstrates by its cash management practices that it will not earn over \$250 on those funds during the award year; or

(iii) The institution requests those funds from the Secretary under the just-in-time payment method.

(4) If an institution maintains Direct Loan, Federal Pell Grant, ACG, National SMART Grant, TEACH Grant, FSEOG, and FWS program funds in an

interest-bearing or investment account, the institution may keep the initial \$250 it earns on those funds during an award year. By June 30 of that award year, the institution must remit to the Secretary any earnings over \$250.

(d) *Accounting and internal control systems and financial records.* (1) An institution must maintain accounting and internal control systems that—

(i) Identify the cash balance of the funds of each title IV, HEA program that are included in the institution's bank or investment account as readily as if those program funds were maintained in a separate account; and

(ii) Identify the earnings on title IV, HEA program funds maintained in the institution's bank or investment account.

(2) An institution must maintain its financial records in accordance with the provisions under § 668.24.

(e) *Standard of conduct.* An institution must exercise the level of care and diligence required of a fiduciary with regard to maintaining and investing title IV, HEA program funds.

(Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1070g, 1091, 1094)

[61 FR 60603, Nov. 29, 1996, as amended at 71 FR 38003, July 3, 2006; 73 FR 35494, June 23, 2008]

**§ 668.164 Disbursing funds.**

(a) *Disbursement.* (1) Except as provided in paragraph (a)(2) of this section, an institution makes a disbursement of title IV, HEA program funds on the date that the institution credits a student's account at the institution or pays a student or parent directly with—

(i) Funds received from the Secretary;

(ii) Funds received from a lender under the FFEL Programs; or

(iii) Institutional funds used in advance of receiving title IV, HEA program funds.

(2) If, earlier than 10 days before the first day of classes of a payment period, or for a student subject to the requirements of § 682.604(c)(5) or § 685.303(b)(4) earlier than 30 days after the first day of the payment period, an institution credits a student's institutional account with institutional funds in advance of receiving title IV, HEA

program funds, the Secretary considers that the institution makes that disbursement on the 10th day before the first day of classes, or the 30th day after the beginning of the payment period for a student subject to the requirements of § 682.604(c)(5) or § 685.303(b)(4).

(b) *Disbursements by payment period.*

(1) Except as provided in paragraph (b)(2) of this section, an institution must disburse title IV, HEA program funds on a payment period basis. An institution must disburse title IV, HEA program funds once each payment period unless—

(i) For FFEL and Direct Loan funds, 34 CFR 682.604(c)(6)(ii) or 34 CFR 685.301(b)(3) applies;

(ii) For Federal Perkins Loan, FSEOG, Federal Pell Grant, ACG, and National SMART Grant funds, an institution chooses to make more than one disbursement in each payment period in accordance with 34 CFR 674.16(b)(3), 34 CFR 676.16(a)(3), 34 CFR 690.76, or 34 CFR 691.76, as applicable; or

(iii) Other program regulations allow or require otherwise.

(2) The provisions of paragraph (b)(1) of this section do not apply to the disbursement of FWS Program funds.

(3) Except as provided in paragraph (g) of this section, an institution may disburse title IV, HEA program funds to a student or parent for a payment period only if the student is enrolled for classes for that payment period and is eligible to receive those funds.

(c) *Direct payments.* (1) An institution pays a student or parent directly by—

(i) Releasing to the student or parent a check provided by a lender to the institution under the FFEL Program;

(ii) Issuing a check payable to and requiring the endorsement of the student or parent. An institution issues a check on the date that it—

(A) Mails the check to the student or parent; or

(B) Notifies the student that the check is available for immediate pick-up at a specified location at the institution. The institution may hold the check for up to 21 days after the date it notifies the student. If the student does not pick up the check within this 21-day period, the institution must immediately mail the check to the student